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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
SOUTHERN DIVISION

TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA
HANDBOOK

for

RANGE CONSERVATION

+

1940 Range Conservation Program



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON: 1939

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THE AAA RANGE CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR 1940

For Conservation of Texas and Oklahoma Range Lands

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the 1940 Range Conservation Program is the conservation of soil on range land. Need for conserving the range in Texas and Oklahoma arises from the fact that the original grazing capacity has been gradually cut down by droughts, overgrazing, rodents, and noxious plants, all of which increase soil erosion. Gradual depletion of grass not only has meant a serious loss of forage to stockmen, but also has left the fertile topsoil of large areas of range land exposed to erosion.

The Range Conservation Program is designed to help ranchmen put into operation the range-building practices which experiment and actual use have shown to be of value in helping maintain or restore a good stand of grass on depleted range land. Grass offers the best protection to range soil. Land covered by a sufficient stand of grass almost always shows constant improvement. Rarely is it severely affected by erosion. Consequently, the Range Conservation Program provides practices which will help maintain or restore a good stand of grass by eliminating competition of range-destroying plants, preventing erosion, and conserving water in the more arid regions.

Natural reseeding by deferred grazing.—One of the most important practices is that of natural reseeding. This is accomplished by keeping all livestock off the pasture from the start of the growth of grass in the spring until the seed has matured.

A different portion of the ranch should be selected each year for natural reseeding by deferred grazing, so that the entire ranch eventually may be reseeded. The operator cannot qualify for payment on land that normally would not be grazed during this period, nor will he be eligible for payment if he permits any part of his ranch to be injuriously overgrazed.

Before beginning the practice of deferred grazing, the area on which grazing is to be deferred must be designated in writing by the operator and approved by the county committee. The payment for this practice will be limited to 40 percent of the range-building allowance, unless the State committee has approved additional recommended practices and other conservation measures to be carried out in the county in connection with the deferred grazing practice.

Development of stock water on range land.—The better distribution of watering places will lessen erosion brought about through trampling and destruction of grass by stock going long distances to water. Stock traveling long distances to water create trails that develop into washes and gullies, causing increased damage from erosion and run-off.

The construction of earthen tanks and reservoirs is the most desirable method of impounding stock water under this program. Concrete or rubble-masonry dams may be constructed where earthen dams are not practicable. Dam sites should be chosen carefully and ranchmen will confer with the county agent or range inspector, and obtain the approval of the county committee before construction is begun. After a dam site is definitely decided upon, ranchmen must be sure that a profile of the proposed dam is made and platted and that benchmarks and reference points are established. The construction of tanks and reservoirs will be approved only for the purpose of providing water for range livestock and for the control of erosion.

Development of natural watering places consists of improvement and development of springs and seeps by excavation. To qualify for payment, the operator must, at his own expense, wall up the spring or seep with concrete or rubble-masonry walls, fence it to protect from trampling, and convey the water into a tank.

Erosion and run-off control.—Contour listing, furrowing, chiseling, contour ridging, and the building of spreader dams and terraces are erosion-control practices specified in the program. These practices hold water on the land where it falls, catch grass seed which otherwise would be lost, help prevent erosion, and keep the water out of creeks and gullies.

Elimination of destructive plants.—Soil may be conserved through encouraging an increased growth of grass by eliminating range-destroying plants which shade out grass or kill it by root competition.

Section 1. HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Ranchmen who wish to participate in the range program will first sign the application for determination of grazing capacity, and then confer and reach an agreement with the range inspector or county agent, and secure the approval of the county committee, as to the approved practices to be carried out on the ranch by filling out the Report of Examination of Range Land. In the event construction of dams is approved as a practice on the ranch the range inspector or a duly appointed representative of the State committee, or county committee, will visit the site, and lay out the proposed dam, establishing benchmarks and reference points. This is necessary in order that accurate measurements of the dam may be made when the work is completed. All practices will be carefully checked to see that they are carried out according to specifications.

Section 2. PAYMENTS TO RANCH OPERATORS

Since ranch operators who carry out range-building practices on their individual ranches are cooperating in the solution of a national problem, the Range Conservation Program provides that they will receive payments from funds to be made available for this purpose by the Federal Government. These payments and the rates at which they will be made are contingent upon the appropriation by Congress of necessary funds. The payment rate may be increased or decreased by not to exceed 10 percent depending on the extent of participation in the program.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Range Conservation Program, a ranch or ranching unit includes all range land (except land owned by the United States Government) which is considered to be land that produces forage grazed by range livestock without cultivation or general irrigation, which is controlled by one operator as a separate unit in the production of livestock, and which is operated with machinery, workstock, and labor substantially separate from that used on any other range land. A ranch is regarded as located in the county in which its principal dwelling is situated. A ranch on which there is no dwelling is regarded as located in the county in which the greater portion of the land is situated.

The maximum amount of money that can be earned under the Range Conservation Program for carrying out range-building practices on any ranch is called the range-building allowance. This allowance is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each animal unit of the grazing capacity established for the ranch, plus 2 cents for each acre of range land in the ranch. It is provided, however, that the allowance cannot be computed on the basis of a grazing capacity of more than 1 animal unit for each 10 acres of range land and that the 2-cent rate on the acreage of range land cannot apply to more than 60 acres per animal unit of grazing capacity, and it is also provided that the range-building allowance shall not be less than \$64 for ranches containing 640 acres of range land or more, nor less than 10 cents per acre of range land for ranches containing less than 640 acres.

An animal unit is 1 cow, 1 horse, 5 goats, or 5 sheep, or the equivalent thereof. The grazing capacity of a ranch is the number of animal units which the range land on the ranch will sustain on a 12-months' basis over a period of years without decreasing the stand of grazing vegetation and without injury to the forage, tree growth, or watershed.

EXAMPLES

For illustration, assume that a ranch with 16,000 acres of range land has an established grazing capacity of 400 animal units, or 40 acres per animal unit. The range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

16,000 (acres) × 2 cents	-----	\$320
400 (animal units) × \$1	-----	400
Range-building allowance	-----	720

In another case, assume that a ranch with 16,000 acres of range land has an established grazing capacity of 200 animal units. This would give the ranch more than the maximum of 60 acres per animal unit on which the payment of 2 cents per acre is allowed; therefore, the 2-cent payment would be made on only 60 acres per animal unit, or 12,000 acres (grazing capacity multiplied by 60). The range-building allowance in this case would be calculated as follows:

12,000 (acres) × 2 cents	-----	\$240
200 (animal units) × \$1	-----	200
Range-building allowance	-----	440

In the case of a ranch with 1,000 acres of range land, assume that the established grazing capacity is 100 animal units. This would give the ranch the minimum requirement of 10 acres per animal unit for that part of the range-building allowance calculated on the basis of grazing capacity. The range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

1,000 (acres) × 2 cents-----	\$20
100 (animal units) × \$1-----	100
Range-building allowance-----	120

In the case of a ranch with 700 acres of range land, assume that the established grazing capacity is 35 animal units. Under the regular procedure the range-building allowance would be calculated as follows:

700 (acres) × 2 cents-----	\$14
35 (animal units) × \$1-----	35
	49

However, since no ranch of 640 acres or more can have an allowance of less than 640 acres × 10 cents, the range-building allowance for this ranch would be----- \$64

In any case, the range-building allowance or any part of it must be earned by the ranch operator by carrying out approved range-building practices.

Section 3. HOW GRAZING CAPACITY IS DETERMINED

The grazing capacity of any ranch participating in the program in 1940 for the first time will be determined through a field survey by a county range inspector selected by the county committee, with the approval of the State committee. In establishing the grazing capacity of a ranch the range inspector will take into consideration the composition, palatability, and density of forage growth; variations in weather conditions; distribution and character of watering facilities; topography; presence or absence of rodents and poisonous plants; and the number and classes of livestock previously carried. The grazing capacity of a ranch shall be based on the normal and not on the temporary condition alone, as found at the time of inspection.

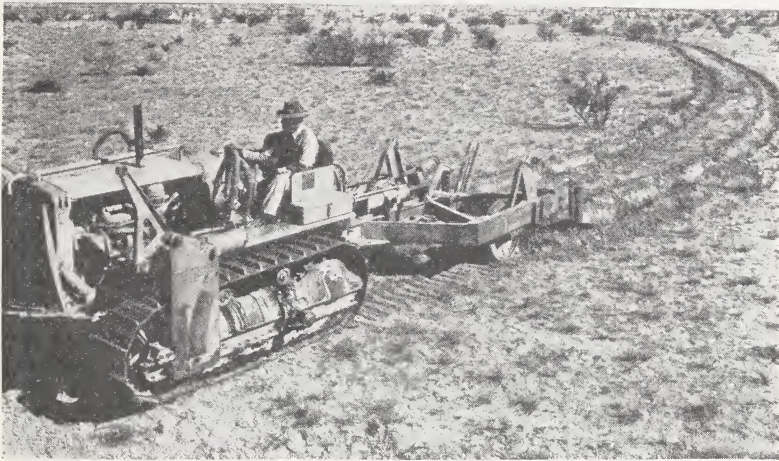
On ranches where a grazing capacity was established in 1939, detailed examination of the range land as to grazing capacity need not be made in 1940 except where it has been requested by the ranch operator or is deemed necessary by the county committee, State committee, or the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that a new determination be made.

The average of the individual grazing capacities for all ranching units in the county shall not exceed the county average grazing capacity limit established by the A. A. A. based on available statistics and recommendation of the State committee.

Section 4. PRACTICES AND CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT

Following is a complete list of practices and the rates and conditions of payments. Payment will be made for carrying out these practices, but the total payment made will not be more than the range-

building allowance. Additional specifications may be issued by the State committee as indicated, with the approval of the Director of the Southern Division. Payment will be made only for practices carried out in accordance with specifications on range land between January 1, 1940, and November 30, 1940, inclusive. All practices must be approved in advance in writing by the county committee.



Contour furrowing with dams at 12-foot intervals.

RESEEDING OF RANGE LAND

1. **Natural reseeding** BY DEFERRED GRAZING AND SUPPLEMENTAL PRACTICES:

(a) **Deferring 25 percent** of the range land in the ranching unit from grazing—**Payment**, 40 percent of the range-building allowance. If grazing is deferred on less than 25 percent, a proportionate payment will be made.

The period for deferred grazing shall be the normal period from the start of forage growth to seed maturity. The nongrazing period shall be as follows:

TEXAS.—For Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, and Kenedy Counties, and all counties lying south of these counties, the nongrazing period shall be from April 15 to September 15. For Wichita, Archer, Throckmorton, Shackelford, Jones, Taylor, Nolan, Coke, Sterling, Reagan, Crockett, and Terrell Counties, and all counties east of these counties, except those listed above, such period shall be from May 1 to October 1. For all other counties in Texas such period shall be from June 1 to November 1.

OKLAHOMA.—For Harmon, Greer, Kiowa, Caddo, Canadian, Oklahoma, Pottawatomie, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Haskell, Le Flore, and all counties south of the counties named, the nongrazing period shall be May 1, 1940, to September 30, 1940. For all counties lying north of those named above, except Cimarron, Beaver, and Texas Counties, the nongrazing period shall be May 15, 1940, to October 15, 1940. The nongrazing period for Cimarron, Beaver, and Texas Counties shall be June 1, 1940, to October 30, 1940.

The ranch operator must submit to the county committee in writing the designation of the deferred grazing acreage prior to the initiation of the practice. This practice is not applicable to range land in the ranching unit which normally is not used for grazing.

The area deferred from grazing must be kept free of livestock during the deferred grazing period, and the ranch operator must carry out practices under such conditions or specifications as shall be established by the county committee with the approval of the State committee as are needed in the interest of range conservation.

The range land **not in the deferred grazing area** must not be pastured to such an extent as will decrease the stand of grass or injure the forage, tree growth, or watershed.

(b) **Supplemental practices** required by the county committee—**Payment**, 35 percent of the range-building allowance. If deferred grazing is carried out on less than 25 percent of the range land in the ranching unit, only a proportionate amount may be earned by carrying out these supplemental practices. The payment shall not exceed the value of such supplemental practices, which values shall be established by the State committee based on recommendations of the county committee.

To be eligible for this payment, or a portion thereof, the ranch operator must defer a portion of the range land in the ranching unit from grazing and, in addition, must comply with such other practices and specifications not listed for payment in this bulletin, which have been recommended by the county committee and approved by the State committee, where the county committee determines such additional practices are needed in the interest of range conservation.

2. **Artificial reseeding** OF DEPLETED RANGE LAND—**Payment**, 20 cents per pound of seed sown, but not in excess of \$2 per acre:

Good seed of adapted varieties of range grasses, legumes, or forage shrubs must be used and the range land properly prepared previous to seeding by mowing, contour listing, or by such other methods as are approved by the county committee as being good practices for such land.

Satisfactory documentary evidence must be submitted to the county committee regarding performance under this practice.

3. **Artificial sodding** OF DEPLETED RANGE LAND—**Payment**, \$3 per acre:

The resodding must be done with adapted varieties of range grasses and in a manner to provide a minimum of one sod piece or original clump of grass for each 28 square feet of pasture land sodded. At least 60 percent of the grass sodded must be growing at the time of checking performance.

EROSION AND RUN-OFF CONTROL

4. **Contour listing, furrowing, and chiseling:**

(a) Furrows with 60 square inches cross section and not less than 5 inches deep constructed with dams at intervals of 12 feet—**Payment**, 2½ cents per 100 linear feet.

(b) Furrows with 60 square inches cross section and not less than 5 inches deep without dams—**Payment**, 2 cents per 100 linear feet.

(c) Furrows, with a minimum of 32 square inches cross section and not less than 4 inches deep, or chiseling not less than 8 inches deep—**Payment**, 1½ cents per 100 linear feet.

Guide lines for this practice must be run at one-half the terrace interval, and all furrows must be spaced not less than 7 feet apart.



Contour furrowed range pasture.

5. **Contour ridging OF RANGE LAND—Payment**, 7½ cents per 100 linear feet:

Ridges or narrow terraces must be at least 3 feet wide from the low point in upper or lower channel to the top of the ridge, at least 15 inches high above the low point in the upper channel, and spaced not more than ⅓ of the maximum terrace interval. Ridges may be pushed from either the upper or the lower side or from both sides. Ridges must not empty directly into gullies but should be blocked at the ends or turned uphill before crossing gullies. Guide lines must be run for each ridge.

6. **Spreader dams and terraces:**

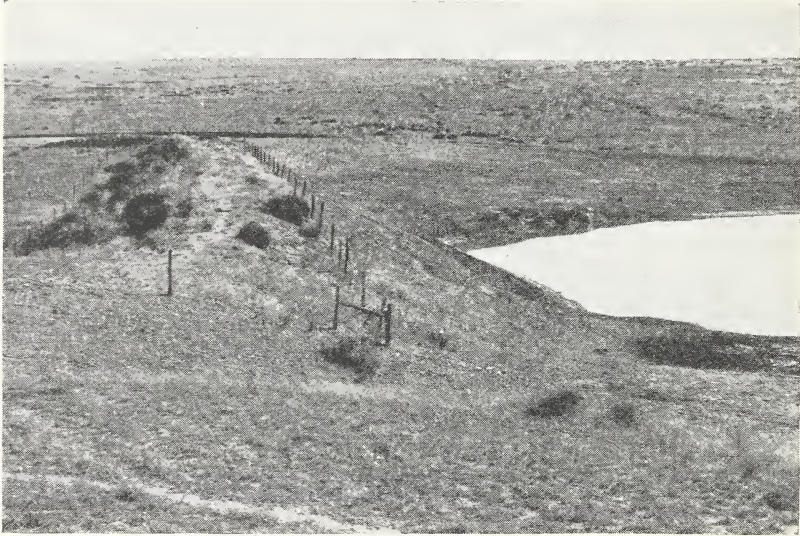
(a) For constructing spreader dams—**Payment**, 15 cents per cubic yard for material moved in building the dams.

(b) For constructing spreader terraces—**Payment**, 50 cents per 100 linear feet.

Spreader dams and spreader terraces may be constructed alone or in combination with each other for the diversion of surface water to prevent soil-washing of range land. Such dams and terraces must be accurately laid off and checked with a standard farm level or surveyor's instrument. Dams, with the exception of spillways, must be constructed in accordance with specifications required under practice number 7.

DEVELOPMENT OF STOCK WATER ON RANGE LAND

7. **Earthen tanks or reservoirs**—**Payment**, 15 cents per cubic yard of material moved, not in excess of 5,000 cubic yards; except that 10 cents per cubic yard will be paid for material moved in excess of 5,000 cubic yards for each tank or reservoir and $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents per cubic yard for excavating dirt necessary in constructing reservoirs but not used in the construction of a dam.



Reservoir constructed under range program.

Reservoirs or earthen tanks must be constructed with spillways adequate to prevent dams from washing out. Dams shall be constructed in accordance with approved specifications issued by the State committee. Prior to construction, the site for such dam must be inspected and a preliminary survey made by a representative designated by the county committee. After a dam site is definitely decided on, it is required that a profile be made and platted and benchmarks and reference points be established.

Where it is determined by the county committee that a dam already constructed does not constitute a suitable watering place for livestock and that the enlargement of said dams will contribute to the effectuation of the purposes of the program, payment will be made at the same rate and under the same specifications as apply to the construction of earthen dams and reservoirs.

8. **Concrete or rubble-masonry dams**—**Payment**, \$6 per cubic yard.—The construction of concrete or rubble-masonry dams will be approved only on rough or broken range land where earthen dams or reservoirs are impracticable and where there is no possibility of using the water stored by such masonry

dam for irrigation purposes. Dams must be constructed in accordance with specifications issued by the State committee.

After a dam site is definitely decided on, it is required that a profile be made and platted and benchmarks and reference points be established.

9. Drilling or digging wells:

(a) Wells with casing not less than 4 inches in diameter—**Payment**, \$2 per linear foot.

(b) Wells with casing less than 4 inches but not less than 2 inches in diameter—**Payment**, \$1 per linear foot.

Drilling or digging wells will be approved only for the purpose of better distribution of watering places for livestock on range land, thus preventing erosion caused by trampling out of grass by livestock going long distances to water, and by overcrowding at one place. Such wells must be sufficiently cased to prevent caving. The ranchman is required to erect at his expense a windmill or power pump, together with adequate pumping equipment and water tanks. Payment will not be made for a well developed at or near ranch headquarters. A dry hole will not qualify for payment. An artesian well will qualify for payment at \$1 per linear foot if suitable stock water is made available during the grazing season and adequate watering places are provided.

10. Development of natural watering places FOR RANGE LIVESTOCK:

(a) Where excavation is in soil or gravel—**Payment**, 30 cents per cubic foot.

(b) Where excavation is in rock—**Payment**, 50 cents per cubic foot.

In developing springs or seeps by excavating, at least sufficient material must be excavated at applicable rates to amount to \$20. The minimum payment for the development of one spring or seep shall be \$20 and the maximum shall be \$100.

The springs or seeps must be walled up with concrete or masonry; the source must be protected from trampling by adequate fencing, and the water conveyed through a trough or a pipe not less than one inch in diameter to a tank of at least 20 cubic feet capacity for the purpose of providing water for range livestock.

PLANTING AND MAINTAINING A STAND OF TREES

11. Tree planting—**Payment**, \$7.50 per acre.

Trees must be planted on range land in 1940 prior to November 1. The number, kind, variety, and age of trees planted and methods of planting and growing must be in accordance with approved specifications issued by the State committee. The acreage planted to trees must be fenced and the fence maintained sufficiently to prevent the entry of livestock. Trees purchased from a Clark-McNary Cooperative State Nursery are not deemed to be paid for in whole or in part by a State or Federal agency and may qualify under this practice.

CONSERVATION OF RANGE LANDS THROUGH THE ELIMINATION OF DESTRUCTIVE PLANTS

12. Eliminating prickly pear and cactus:

(a) Light infestation, 2 percent to 6 percent, inclusive—**Payment**, 50 cents per acre.

(b) Medium infestation, 7 percent to 12 percent, inclusive—**Payment**, 75 cents per acre.

(c) Heavy infestation, above 12 percent—**Payment**, \$1 per acre.

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 2 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

13. Eliminating mesquite:

(a) Light infestation, 5 percent to 20 percent, inclusive, **Payment**, 50 cents per acre.

(b) Medium infestation, 21 percent to 40 percent, inclusive—**Payment**, \$1 per acre.

(c) Heavy infestation, above 40 percent—**Payment**, \$2 per acre.

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 5 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

14. Eliminating cedar:

(a) Light infestation, 5 percent to 15 percent, inclusive—**Payment**, 75 cents per acre.

(b) Medium infestation, 16 percent to 30 percent, inclusive—**Payment**, \$1 per acre.

(c) Heavy infestation, above 30 percent—**Payment**, \$1.50 per acre.

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. Where infestation is less than 5 percent, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

15. Eliminating lechuguilla—**Payment**, 50 cents per acre:

Payment will be based on the percentage of ground infested. This payment will be made for eliminating infestations above 2 percent. Where infestation is 2 percent or less, coverage will be calculated by counting 2 or more acres as 1, according to the relative facts found by the range inspector and approved by the county committee.

NOTE.—The degree of infestation of destructive plants as outlined in practices Nos. 12, 13, 14, and 15 will be determined by judging the density of the growths and grading them in accordance with the percentage of the ground covered by the total spread of trees or plants, as estimated by the range inspector. In order to make an accurate estimate as to the percentage of coverage of such plants, the range inspector should step off a representative tenth or twentieth of an acre of infested area and measure the ground covered by all the trees and plants under consideration that are on the area. From this he can determine the percentage of coverage on such plot or plots, then use this percentage as a basis for arriving at the percentage of the entire infested area.

16. Destruction of noxious plants BY MOWING—**Payment**, 25 cents per acre per mowing:

Payment will not be made if the plants mowed are used for hay or sold for any purpose, nor for mowing a greater number of times than the county committee, with the approval of the State committee, finds is necessary for destruction of the noxious plants.

FIRE GUARDS

17. Establishment of fireguards—Payment, 5 cents per 100 linear feet:

Fireguards must not be less than 10 feet in width and must be constructed by exposing the soil by plowing furrows or by other mechanical means. All vegetation in the fireguard must be destroyed. Proper arrangements must be made to prevent erosion and gullyng, and the fireguards otherwise maintained throughout the year. Payment will not be made if the fireguard is used in connection with controlled burning within the ranching unit.

Section 5. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR PAYMENT

Application for range-building payments may be made only by a ranch operator, who is the person operating a ranching unit as owner or lessee, or a person who acts in a similar capacity in the operation of a ranch. In case there are two or more ranch operators, the application must be signed by all of them. However, if one or more refuse to sign, the county committee will determine the percentage shares of the operators who have signed the application. An owner or lessee who will operate the ranch for a portion of the year must apply for inspection before the closing date for accepting applications in order to qualify under the program by performance after he actually assumes operation.

Payment may be withheld from any ranch operator who fails to file within the prescribed time any form or furnish any information required concerning any ranch or farm in which he is interested. Payment will be made only upon application submitted through the county office on or before March 31, 1941.

No payment will be made for any practice for which one-half or more of the total cost of the labor, seed, trees, or materials used in carrying out the practice are furnished by any State or Federal agency other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. If less than one-half of the total cost of the labor, seed, trees, or other materials used in carrying out any practice is furnished by a State or Federal agency, other than the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, one-half of such practice shall qualify for payment.

All or any part of any payment under this program may be withheld, or required to be returned, from any ranch operator (1) who has adopted any practice which the Secretary determines tends to defeat the purposes of the 1940 or previous range conservation programs or who in any manner whatsoever offsets or participates in offsetting performance for which payment is sought; (2) who adopts any practice on forest or woodland controlled by him which the Director of the Southern Division finds is contrary to sound conservation practices; (3) where adequate inspection of his ranch shows the stand of grass has been decreased or the forage, tree growth, or the watershed has been injured by overgrazing in 1940, consideration being given to rainfall, rate of stocking, and other local conditions; or (4) who changes for 1940 the 1939 leasing

arrangements so as to divert to himself payments which would have been made to the lessee under the 1939 conditions of the lease, or who the State committee finds has employed any other scheme or device which would have the effect of depriving any other person of any payment or share of payment to which such other person otherwise would be entitled.

No deduction will be made from payments earned under the range conservation program because of failure to meet soil-depleting acreage requirements and other conditions of the Agricultural Conservation Program. However, under the marketing-quota provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, no payment will be made for participation in the 1940 Range Conservation Program to any person who knowingly overplants in 1940 the cotton allotment determined under such act for any farm in which he has an interest.

The total of all payments made in connection with programs for 1939 under Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to any individual, partnership, or estate with respect to farms, ranching units, and turpentine places located within a single State, Territory, or possession, shall not exceed the sum of \$10,000 prior to deduction for association expenses in the county or counties with respect to which the particular payment is made. The total of all payments made in connection with programs for 1939 under Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to any person other than an individual, partnership, or estate with respect to farms, ranching units, and turpentine places in the United States (including Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico) shall not exceed the sum of \$10,000 prior to deduction for association expenses in the county or counties with respect to which the particular payment is made.

All or any part of any payment which has been or otherwise would be made to any person under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program, including the Range Conservation Program, may be withheld or required to be returned if he has adopted or participated in adopting any scheme or device, including the dissolution, reorganization, or formation of any corporation, partnership, estate, trust, or by any other means, which was designed to evade, or would have the effect of evading, the provisions of this section.

Any payment or share of payments shall be computed and made without regard to questions of title under State law, without deduction of claims for advances (except as provided in Section 6), and without regard to any claim or lien against any crop or livestock, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor.

Section 6. ASSIGNMENTS

A person may assign his interest in any payment due him under the 1940 Range Conservation Program as security for loan or advance made for financing the carrying out of range-building practices in 1940. An assignment must be made in writing on Form ACP-69 in accordance with instructions (ACP-70) issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and filed in the county office. No assignment will be recognized unless it is entitled to priority as determined under the instructions issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The assignee is not entitled to any payment other than

that to which the ranch operator is entitled, nor (as provided in the statute) shall the Secretary or any disbursing agent be subject to any suit or liability if payment is made to the ranch operator without regard to the existence of any such assignment.

Section 7. DEDUCTIONS FOR ASSOCIATION EXPENSES

There shall be deducted pro rata from the payments with respect to any ranching unit all or such part as the Secretary may prescribe of the estimated administrative expenses incurred or to be incurred by the county agricultural conservation association in the county in which the ranching unit is located.

Section 8. APPEALS

Any ranch operator who considers himself aggrieved by any recommendation or determination of the county committee may, within 15 days after notice thereof is given, request the county committee in writing to reconsider the recommendation or determination. Appeals may also be taken from the decisions of the county committee to the State committee and to the Director of the Southern Division in accordance with procedure issued by the Director of the Southern Division.

Section 9. AUTHORITY

This Handbook for Texas and Oklahoma, outlining the Range Conservation Program for 1940, is issued pursuant to the provisions of the 1940 Range Conservation Program Bulletin, which was approved by the Secretary of Agriculture on September 28, 1939; and all payments for range-building practices will be made in 1940 in accordance with the provisions of this Handbook and such modifications thereof or other provisions as may hereafter become necessary, except that in case of a conflict between this Handbook and the National Bulletin, the National Bulletin shall govern.

Issued November 7, 1939, with the approval of the Administrator.

(Signed) I. W. DUGGAN,
*Director, Southern Division,
Agricultural Adjustment Administration.*



